



Oasis
ANIMAL SHELTER

Newsletter

Winter 2008



Oberlin, OH

www.OASISanimalshelter.net

Dear Friends,

During this season of good will, the Oasis dogs are reaping the benefits of human kindness. Our largest residents are enjoying extended run access thanks to the installation of four doggie doors by Handyman Jim. All the dogs are benefitting from the services of dedicated new volunteers who joined the Oasis team this fall. The group includes a number of Oberlin College student dog walkers. We have celebrated adoptions of several canine residents the past few months and continue to provide the best care possible for our dogs who wait for their forever families. Our all-volunteer staff thanks you for your support and wishes you **Happy Holidays**.



YES, WE "DOOed"

September brought dog lovers to Oberlin for the annual Doggie Doo. The staff enjoyed greeting old friends and new who stopped by the Oasis booth to chat, participate in our fundraisers or meet dog trainer Mel McGrath.

At left, a beautiful friend gives volunteer Mel Simmons a hug for selling so many raffle tickets.



Joyce Bolte, Vicki Praszek and Buddy prepare to welcome visitors to the Oasis booth.

Please patronize these Oasis sponsors.



BUSINESSES SPONSOR OASIS DOGS

Thanks to the following merchants who have displayed posters, sponsoring a specific Oasis dog or the shelter. They set out flyers or pamphlets about the dogs as well.

AAA East Central
Always With Love
#1 American Eagle Coin Co.
Arnold G. Millner, DPM
Aries Style Salon
Bead Paradise
Ben Franklin
The Bridge
Cable Co-op
Carlyle Gift and Flower Shop
Copy Shop
Dave's Army/Navy

Edward Jones - Curt Paul
Feve
Functional Physical Therapy
Gibson's Bakery
Ginko Gallery & Studio
Herrick's Jewelers
Infinite Monkey
Java Zone
John D. Cole
Manuel's Barber Shop
Midas
Modern Beauty Salon
NE OH Ctr. Pain MGT- Dr. Ray

Oberlin Public Library
Oberlin Bookstore
Puffer's Florist
Ross Insurance Agency
Smith Furnishings and Floor Coverings
Sperry Gorske Agency
Splash Zone
Time For Treats
The UPS Store
Velvet Turtle Salon
Watson's Hardware
Yesterday's Ice Cream Shop

HAPPY ENDINGS: MOLLIE'S STORY

In March of 2005, I adopted a 9-month old puppy from the Lake County Humane Society and named her Chaka. She was listed as a beagle mix, but everyone (including my vet) thought she was all beagle. Chaka and I got along great and soon settled into being a "family." After about nine months, I was feeling guilty about Chaka being home alone each day, occasionally chewing furniture out of boredom while I was at work. I decided to look for a companion for her.



Mollie/Keia and Chaka

After visiting all of the local shelters, I searched Petfinders.com for a young female beagle. A dog at Oasis animal shelter in Oberlin caught my eye because she had the same coloring as Chaka. "Mollie" was listed as a sweet, long-legged beagle looking for her forever home. I made an appointment to see her.

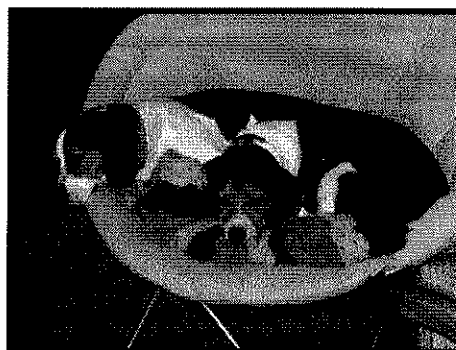
My sister and her daughter accompanied Chaka and me on the hour-long ride from Mentor to Oberlin. When we arrived, Vera, the shelter director, brought Mollie outside. She turned out to be every inch the sweet, long-legged beagle described on Petfinder. My "alpha" dog Chaka didn't want much to do with her, but I figured that would be a temporary situation and signed the adoption papers.

During our long drive home, my sister fell in love with Mollie, who dozed on her lap. Chaka was in the back with my niece, pretty much oblivious to our new addition. Once home, Chaka and Mollie, renamed "Keia," played awhile in the house. My sister and niece stuck around to watch. Everything was going well until I started handing out yummy treats. Chaka, the "queen" of the house, became very territorial and started a fight with Keia. The fight became pretty intense. Blood flew around the kitchen from small wounds each inflicted on the other. By the time my relatives and I were able to separate the dogs, I was seriously questioning my decision to adopt. After my sister and niece left, I called Vera and asked if I could bring Mollie (Keia) back that same night. I cried all the way to Oberlin, apologizing to this very sweet dog who thought she had found her forever home only to be "abandoned" one more time.

I felt horrible that night and the next few days. My sister told me I had given up too easily. Even at work I became emotional thinking about the sweet little girl returned to the shelter. My guilt led to research.. Within a few days I convinced myself to give the adoption a second try and called Vera to request another visit with Mollie. I made my third long drive to Oasis right from work, arriving just in time to readopt Mollie before Vera closed the shelter for the night. This time would be forever. Once home, I carefully selected treats and toys for Chaka and Keia and watched for signs of aggression from Chaka. The two played together for the next three hours, confirming my decision. Weeks later I knew Chaka had accepted Keia when I found the

two sleeping together on Chaka's favorite chair.

Keia has been with me over a year and a half now. The girls still have an occasional squabble, but I've learned to control those situations. People always ask me if they are litter mates, but they don't look anything alike to me, and they couldn't have more



Sisters share a cozy bed.

different personalities. Chaka is aloof but polite with other people, and I can never tell how she'll react to dogs. Keia, on the other hand, hasn't met a person or dog she doesn't like.

I've never regretted going back to get Keia after that first horrible night. Chaka and Keia make me laugh every day with their antics, and I love both dearly. They add joy to my life.

Many thanks to Rosalie M. Troha for sharing her adoption experiences and photos, including this family Christmas picture -priceless!





**WARNING:
Keep Gorilla
Glue Away
From Pets**

Veterinarians nationwide have been dealing with the especially harmful effects of an all purpose polyurethane wood glue called Gorilla Glue. Because this adhesive is activated by moisture and expands to 3-4 times its original volume, even small amounts of it can cause serious problems when ingested. It enlarges in the stomach forming a foamy mass which usually requires surgical removal. Typically, a pet that swallows the glue develops signs of lethargy, vomiting and a swollen, painful abdomen. Symptoms of distress develop within 15 minutes up to 24 hours after ingestion of the glue. Prompt diagnosis and treatment is extremely important. Pet owners should keep all glues and household chemicals out of reach of their animals.



Donna Palmer gets a kiss from Lulu.

VOLUNTEER KEEPS ON GIVING

More than fifteen years ago, Donna Palmer responded to an ad in the newspaper. Newly appointed Oasis director Vera Opal was in dire need of volunteer help, and dog lover Palmer saw an opportunity to help out and get some exercise. She has been caring for dogs in need at Oasis ever since – and getting better workouts than any gym could provide. More importantly, she has helped to give hope and refuge to hundreds of abandoned dogs,

Palmer remembers the challenges of the “closet size” building that first housed Oasis in downtown Oberlin. Cages had to be stacked for lack of space, and caring for the dogs was difficult, to say the least.

Over the years, Palmer has adopted four shelter dogs. Though she loves dogs of all types, she is partial to beagles. Beagle Hannah joined beagle-shelty mix Teela to become family last year. Palmer is also a longtime friend to feral cats, though she denies being a “cat person.”

When it comes to helping animals, Palmer wishes everyone would understand that “a little love goes a long way.” Every act of kindness, even a simple pat on the head, is important.

Oasis Members Conduct Canine Safety Program

On November 18, Oasis board members Vicki Praszek and Joyce Bolte, partnered with the Lorain County Kennel Club to conduct a canine safety program for over 60 Cub Scouts and their families at North Ridgeville’s Liberty Elementary School. Important safety awareness tips regarding unfamiliar dogs were presented and handouts distributed to the boys. Jackie Caffo and Janis Wilson from the kennel club brought along their rescued Weimaraner and golden retriever, and Praszek introduced a pair of rescued greyhounds. The boys enjoyed interacting with the dogs and asked many questions. Scouts not only made bandanas for our shelter dogs but also donated cash, treats and toys. Kudos to North Ridgeville’s Troop 100 for their role in organizing this event.



Volunteers Nancy Mazur and Alice Stewart treat Andy and Addy to walks on a brisk December morning.

WILL YOU HELP US GIVE HOMELESS DOGS A CHANCE?

Thank you for your generosity in any amount. All donations are used to help care for and place homeless dogs.

\$5 _____ \$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Kindly mail with donation to: OASIS Animal Shelter
P.O. Box 11
Oberlin, OH 44074

OASIS Animal Shelter is a 501 c3 non profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

www.OASISanimalshelter.net

PLEASE
VISIT OUR
WEB SIGHT
TO LEARN
MORE
ABOUT
THESE
GREAT
OASIS DOGS
AND TO VIEW
OTHERS
OR CALL
(440) 775-4101.



OASIS respects your privacy and does not sell or otherwise share its mailing list. If you choose not to receive the Oasis newsletter, please contact us; we'll make the change.

OASIS Animal Shelter
P.O. Box 11
Oberlin, OH 44074